

U.S. Serial No.: 10/798,522  
Docket No.: 2156-612A

Examiner: E. Wong  
Art Unit: 1753

### SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph at page 5, lines 13-32 as follows:

A process for electroplating a conductive metal layer onto the surface of a non-conductive material comprising the steps of:

a. contacting said non-conductive surface with a liquid carbon black dispersion comprising:

- (i) carbon black particles;
- (ii) carbon black particles selected from the group consisting of

(i) carbon black particles having a surface area of at least 150 ~~least 150~~ m<sup>2</sup>/g, (ii) carbon black particles having an oil absorption number of at least about 150 cm<sup>3</sup>/100g as a DBP (dibutyl phthalate) absorption value, and (iii) carbon black particles having a % volatiles content of less than 5%; [[.]]

- (iii) one or more dispersing agents;
- (iv) an alkali metal hydroxide; and
- (v) water;

b. separating substantially all of the water from the conventional and highly conductive carbon black particles, such that the conventional and highly conductive carbon black particles are deposited on the non-conductive surface in a substantially continuous layer; and thereafter

c. electroplating a conductive metal layer over the deposited carbon layer and said non-conductive surfaces.

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